**Piano Studio of Joseph Satava**

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**STUDIO POLICY**

**Lessons**

Private lessons are given weekly at a minimum of 30 minutes per student. Advanced students and families requiring more than 60 minutes will receive a multi-hour discount. Lessons are given either at the teacher’s studio or at the student’s home.  Private lessons focus primarily on technique and repertoire as well as musicianship and creative skills. A successful musical experience will require cooperation and communication between student, parent and teacher. My goal is to create a lifelong love of music and learning while nurturing the artistic spirit in each student.

**Student/Parent Expectations**

* Students are expected to come prepared for their lessons with pieces practiced and written work completed.
* Even if the student has had a less than desirable practice week, it is important for the student to have their lesson. Lesson time can be used for many other developmental musical skills outside of what the student may be able to practice and acquire on their own.
* Confidence and progress are made with the consistency of practice and lessons.
* All students must have either an acoustic piano that is well maintained and tuned, or a touch sensitive full-sized keyboard.
* Parental involvement is crucial for student success. Please help your child to stick to a practice routine, and see that practice time is free of distractions.
* Parents of young elementary-age children who are beginners, are asked to be present at the lesson so they may help and monitor their child’s practice.
* Specific instructions of assignments and practice will be given in the students notebook and parents of young students are encouraged to monitor the progress and completion of assignments.
* Consistent practice is key and the amount is dependent upon the students’ age and level. Explanation will be clearly given to each student/parent for what is required for the week’s practice

**Registration**

By registering and paying in advance for your lessons, your studio slot and time are reserved for you for the teaching year and the student will be eligible to participate in the studio recital.  **Whether you are paying by month, or for the term, you are committing to pay for 16 weeks of lessons at the start of each term. Please note the attendance policy below.**

The 2017-2018 teaching year will be divided into the following terms:

* Fall Semester (16 weeks) 8/28/17-12/16/17
* Spring Semester (16 weeks) 1/22/18-5/12/18
* Flexible Summer Semester (8 weeks, see below) 6/18/18-8/25/18

\* note: for continuity and overall success of the student, lessons are expected to continue weekly through the interims.

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**Choose payment by month or term**

Advance payment rates: Teacher’s studio rate is $60 per hour and $50 per additional hour(s). Student’s home rate is $70 per hour and $60 per additional hour.

Pay by Month  
The monthly payment will be due the first lesson every four weeks in the term for a total of four payments in the 16 week term.

Monthly Payment:    Student’s home                           Teacher’s studio

30 minute lesson         $140                                          $120

45 minute lesson         $210                                         $180

60 minute lesson          $280                                          $240

75 minute lesson         $340                                          $290

90 minute lesson          $400                                         $340

105 minute lesson     $460                                         $390

120 minute lesson        $520                                          $440

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Pay by Term  
If the student/parent chooses to pay by the term for the Fall/Spring semesters, they will receive two free lessons. The term price is reduced by two lesson payments, but must be paid in advance by the second lesson of each term. If there is a vacation planned, or there is an illness, there is no financial loss, which is the benefit of the term payment. If these misses are not used, the two lessons are free.

Term Payment: (Fall and Spring – 16 weeks priced at 14X hourly rate)

Student’s home                           Teacher’s studio

30 minute lesson       $490                                          $420

45 minute lesson      $735                                          $630

60 minute lesson        $980                                         $840

75 minute lesson       $1,190                                       $1,015

90 minute lesson       $1,400                                       $1,190

105 minute lesson     $1,610                                       $1,365

120 minute lesson     $1,820                                       $1,540

**Flexible summer term**

Please plan ahead for the summer term.  The student/parent is asked to commit to at least 5 weeks of lessons during the summer term.  The lesson dates will be mutually coordinated between student and teacher within the 8 week term.  The summer lesson dates must be scheduled by May 26, 2018. A student committing to the full 8 week term will receive one free lesson. Advanced payment rates will apply, and once the number of weeks has been mutually coordinated, the summer term payment will be due the first lesson of the summer term.

​**Per lesson rates**

Per lesson rates are only available during interim weeks, or in the case that a student requests lessons in addition to the weekly lesson time.

Teacher’s studio: $60 per hour.  Student home: $70 per hour

**Late payment**

If you know that a payment may be late, or need to make special arrangements, never hesitate to contact me, as I am always happy to work with you. However, if payment is late with no advance notice, a $10 fee will be added to the total.

**Forms of payment**

Payment types accepted: cash, check, or direct deposit.  Checks payable to: Joseph Satava

**Attendance**

* There are no make-ups and no refunds for student absences or cancellations.
* If the teacher misses a lesson and he is unable to make-up the lesson at an agreeable time, the missed lesson(s) may be credited towards a future lesson or refunded. If necessary, interim weeks in between terms will be used for teacher absence make-ups. Lessons are expected to continue throughout interim weeks at the per lesson rate.
* Lesson times will not be extended for tardiness.
* Any tardiness on the teacher’s part will be made-up.

**Terminating lessons**

Any termination initiated by the parent/student requires 60 days written and paid tuition notice.  If the student has paid for the term, 2 months will be charged and any remainder will be refunded. Any student whose payment is more than 30 days in arrears or misses two consecutive lessons without notifying the teacher may be terminated at the discretion of the teacher.

**Studio Recital**

There will be a full studio recital after the completion of the spring semester. The recital will take place Saturday, June 2nd, 2018 at 2:00 pm at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church in Towson, MD.  I encourage all students to participate. Students will be informed of other possible performance opportunities throughout the year.

**A final word**

It is a profound privilege to teach piano, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to work with each of you.  Please do not hesitate to speak with me if any aspect of this policy is not clear or causes concern.  The artistic discovery made with each student is a great source of joy for me, and I thank each of you for your hard work and commitment to our musical journey.

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